



# CLB-5 FAMILY READINESS NEWSLETTER

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Promotions & Awards	2
Pre-Deployment Info	3
H&S Co TS Alpha & Bravo	4
Maintenance Co Engineer Co	5
Births and Holiday Party	6
1st Sgt Stone Retires & FRO in the Field	7
Chaplains Corner & Family Readiness Info	8

### Commanding Officer:

Lt. Col. Jeff Jarosz

### Executive Officer:

Maj. Shane Long

### Sergeant Major:

Sgt. Maj. Brian Cullins

### H&S Co Commander:

Capt. Barrett Dupuy

### TS Alpha Co Commander:

Capt. Matt Zimbalist

### TS Bravo Co Commander:

Capt. Sean Cox

### Maintenance Co Commander:

Capt. Joseph Flynn

### Engineer Co (7<sup>th</sup> ESB):

Capt. Daniel Francis

### Chaplain:

LtJG Salimaleato Fuimaono

### Family Readiness Officer:

Christine Winicki

760.763.6915 (ofc)

760.468.8276 (cell)

### Deputy FRO:

Sgt William McConnell

760.763.7217 (ofc)

William.mcconnell@usmc.mil

### CLB-5 Duty Officer:

760.763.4934

FEBRUARY 2010

## Commanders Comments

### Lt. Col. Jeff Jarosz

Families and friends,  
Greetings from the cold, wet and windy desert of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Training Center in 29 Palms, CA. CLB-5 Marines and Sailors have been grinding it out here for over three weeks as they undergo the Enhanced Mojave Viper exercise, their capstone training event prior to heading off to Afghanistan. The training is complex and the recent winter weather has added to the challenge. The Marines and Sailors continue to complete the mission daily in a disciplined, professional and positive manner.

As a logistics combat element, the battalion has also faced the challenge of having to rapidly integrate many personnel from various units, both at Camp Pendleton as well as from reserve units in Oregon, Arizona, Washington and New York. The battalion nearly doubled in size over the last two months.

The battalion's first opportunity to come together and operate as a whole team was a 10-day exercise at Camp Pendleton back in December. As is the case here in 29 Palms, the battalion was also challenged then by severe rain and winds. So, this is a weather-hardened bunch after these two recent training events. The team attitude of our Marines and Sailors has enabled the battalion to quickly bring in all these "new-joins" and form that cohesion that will be critical to our effectiveness far forward.

You, the spouses, family members and relatives, are also critical to our collective effectiveness as a unit and to the individual effectiveness of each Marine and Sailor.

In order to bring each one of you, our families, friends and relatives onto our team, we have brought on-board



Mrs. Christine Winicki in late December as our Family Readiness Officer. She has begun and will continue reaching out to bring you into the fold, keep you informed and help prepare our Marines, Sailors and family members for the challenges the upcoming long separation will bring. I thank you all for your steadfastness and calm endurance of the separations thus far. You should be proud of your Marines and Sailors and they should be proud of you for your perseverance in being the spouse and family member of a U.S. Marine and U.S. Sailor.

Semper Fidelis,

LtCol J.L. Jarosz

Paint Signs to Welcome the  
Marines from Mojave Viper

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2010 &  
Thursday, Feb. 4, 2010

3:00—4:30 pm

CLB-5 Motor Pool

Meet the New FRO,  
Christine Winicki

## December 2009 Promotions

Cpl Garcia, Cesar  
Cpl Jackson, Joseph  
Cpl Kielty, Dane  
Cpl Korn, Samuel  
Cpl Salas, Rafael  
Cpl Stratchko, Steven

Lcpl Caddy, Daniel  
Lcpl, Camacho, Rene  
Lcpl Camarillo, Cassandra  
Lcpl Foster, Dustin  
Lcpl Mitchell, Andrew  
Lcpl Morales, Marcos

Lcpl Siegel, Kristyn  
Lcpl Skiles, Lance  
Lcpl Zenor, Brenton  
PFC O'Shea, Carlton



GySgt Phillips

## January 2010 Promotions

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt Williams, Lester  
GySgt Phillips, Anamaria  
Sgt Schaub, Jason M.  
Cpl Camp, Ronnie J.  
Cpl Hall, Gregory S.  
Cpl Medina, Gabryal  
Cpl Norrod, Darren M.  
Cpl Radziewicz, James M.  
Cpl Roman, Joshua M.

Cpl Scott, Austin S.  
Cpl Ward, Bryan, S.  
Lcpl Apodoca, Patrick J.  
Lcpl Durand, Joseph R.  
Lcpl Hernandez, Jose A.  
Lcpl Jones, David C.  
Lcpl Keranen, Betty  
Lcpl Mazziotti, Anthony J.  
Lcpl Paulson, William P.

Lcpl Perez, Eric L.  
Lcpl Ramos Jr., Jesus M.  
Lcpl Rivera, Michael E.  
Lcpl Rodriguez, Chad E.  
Lcpl Toftner, Brandon D.  
PFC Parr, Grace H.  
PFC Peters, Joseph H.



Cpl Medina

## Awards



### Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal:

1st Sgt Stone, Thomas  
Sgt Nagle, Brandon S.  
Sgt Pitts, Corey, L.  
Sgt Thorpe, Christopher E.  
Sgt Willingmyre, Michael K.

Cpl Cruz, JanBenjemil B.  
Cpl Kemp, Samuel R.  
Cpl Manriquez, Reyes J.  
Cpl Perez, David  
Cpl Robinson, James E.  
Lcpl Trejo, Victor  
Cpl Welz, Robert E.

## Re-Enlistments

Sgt Diaz, Adalberto  
Sgt Elsenpeter, Robert S.  
Sgt Thomas, Ayinde  
Sgt Yanez, Joel  
Cpl Angulo, Luis A.  
Cpl Cruz, JanBenjemi B.

Cpl Hughes, Tyler W.  
Cpl Jenkins, Jesse R.  
Cpl Johnson, Robert A.  
Cpl Patterson, Daniel W.  
Cpl Robinson, Joseph S.



Lcpl Mazziotti

# How Can a Spouse or Parent Prepare for Deployment?

Marines work very hard to tame the “paperwork tiger” in preparation for deployment. Spouses and parents can work alongside their Marines and prepare themselves.

Here are some hints for family members to get their own paperwork ready:

- Spouses and Dependent Children: **Update your Military ID** cards so they do not expire

during the deployment.

- Spouses and Parents: Obtain or update your **passport** in the event that international travel is required,

- Spouses or Parents: learn about **MY PAY website** and get your Marine's access code in order to

view Leave & Earnings Statements and W-2 tax forms.

- Spouses or Parents: Obtain a copy of the **Letter of Deployment from the S-I Admin** section in the event that a lease needs to be broken.

- Spouses or Parents: Obtain copies of the **General and/or Special Powers of Attorney**

## Pre-Deployment Briefing—February 17, 2010

Information and preparation are the keystones to a successful deployment.

CLB-5 will gather representatives from:

- Legal
- Family Team Building—Deployment Specialists
- Tricare/DEERS
- Disbursing

- Navy-Marine Corps Relief
- Red Cross
- Public Affairs
- Postal Information
- United Through Reading

Specific information from each area will be presented to ensure that each Marine and their family has the information needed to be secure and supported.

Three sessions will be offered:

1. 0900-1100: for Single Marines
2. 1300-1500: Married and Single w/Dependents (NO childcare available)
3. 1900-2100: Married and Single w/Dependents (FREE childcare available)

### FREE CHILDCARE:

Browne Child Development Center across from the Club will open at 1815.

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY FEB. 3, 2010**

### To make a reservation:

Please call the FRO, Christine Winicki  
760.468.8276 (Cell)  
760.763.6915 (Ofc)

## Learning About Afghanistan

Afghanistan has unique cultural traditions and history. Knowing this background makes Marines more flexible and effective in meeting their deployment objectives. 1st Sgt Bunch (H&S Co.) provided this information:

- Kabobs—an Afghan restaurant in Temecula (near Macaroni Grill at the Mall) with authentic food and Afghan native owners who love to talk about their homeland.

- *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Relin tells of one man's mission to promote peace...one school at a time.
- *The Kite Runner* and *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini two fictional novels that includes historical events in Afghan history and cultural information.

- 0900-1100  
Single Marines

- 1300-1500  
Married & Single w/Dependents  
(No childcare avail)

- 1900-2100  
Married & Single w/Dependents (FREE childcare avail—reserve by Feb, 3)



## Pre-Deployment Briefing

- Learn the legal, financial, and personal services available to marines and their families during deployment
- Meet the Commanders, Chaplain and Family Readiness Officer

**February, 17, 2010**  
**South Mesa SNCO**

POC: Christine Winicki, FRO  
760.468.8276/760.763.6915

## Headquarters and Service Company

As the Commanding Officer for Headquarters and Service Company (H&S), I am proud of your Marines and Sailors and thank you for your support. The Marines and Sailors of H&S Company have done an outstanding job over the past several months preparing for the upcoming deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The 10-day field exercise in December and

Enhanced Mojave Viper (EMV), held from Jan to early Feb 2010, honed the skills and team building gained of the entire company. The Marines and Sailors of H&S did exceptionally well during EMV. H&S Co is ready to face the challenges that lie ahead. The remainder of the time before deploying will be spent ensuring that all administrative and medical needs are fulfilled. 1st Sgt Bunch, and I are here to support you

## Capt. Barrett Dupuy

and your service member. You may contact 1stSgt Bunch: [Jason.w.Bunch@usmc.mil](mailto:Jason.w.Bunch@usmc.mil) or myself:

[barrett.dupuy@usmc.mil](mailto:barrett.dupuy@usmc.mil).

Very Sincerely,

Captain Barrett Dupuy



## Transportation Support—Alpha Company

I want to take this opportunity to thank the Marines of TS Company "A" for their extremely hard work over the last several months, as well as their families for their patience and support during a period of intense training. Since our last major training exercise in

October, there have been a great many changes. We are now organized as Transportation Support Company "A" and, along with TS Company "B", will provide CLB-5 with the legs to get things where we need them to. "Alpha" Company has hit the ground running, participating in the December Bn Field Exercise at Camp

## Capt. Matt Zimbalist

Pendleton, and Enhanced Mojave Viper at 29 Palms. It is clear to me that they are ready to deploy and accomplish our mission. I could not be more proud of all the Marines of Alpha Company, and could not be more grateful to our families for their continued support.

Very Sincerely,  
Captain Matt Zimbalist



## Transportation Support—Bravo Company

What a whirlwind! We were celebrating the holidays with our families and then were thrust into a month of vigorous training at Mojave Viper. It amazes me to think that we joined together just over two months ago. In that short time, I see the unshakeable pride and professionalism of this team. While training in Mojave Viper the Marines of

Team Bravo have made significant strides that will serve us well abroad for any mission at anytime. I think I can speak for every Marine of Bravo Company when I say that although we appreciate the training, we are excited to see the ones we love. To the entire Bravo Company family, I very much look forward to meeting you on the 17th of

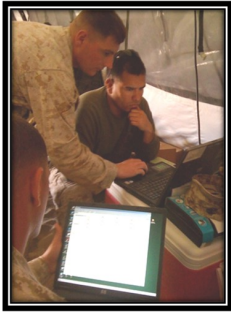
February at the Pre-Deployment Briefing. Until then, I personally want to wish you all the best, thank you for your unyielding support, and Semper Fidelis!

Capt. Sean Cox



## Maintenance Company

As Marines, we must remember first and foremost that the mission of the Marine Corps is relatively simple: "Make Marines and Win Battles." In order to do this, Marines must train, train, and train some more. The Marines of Maintenance Company are coming out of Mojave Viper (MV) highly motivated, trained, and ready to deploy. Marines were able to



work within their respective MOS while concurrently receiving, practicing, and sustaining their battle skills. Within the first week of MV, the company performed a field Change-Of-Command, between the outgoing Commander (Capt Sassarini) and the in-coming Commander (Capt Flynn). Cpl Medina was submitted for, and subsequently won the Battalion's nomination for Meritorious Sergeant while several other Marines had additions to their families...congrats to all. Marines were also able to take advantage of advanced mechanical/technical and formal school training; expanding

their individual skill-sets and the Battalion's deployment capabilities. All-in-all, everything operated as planned and Maintenance Company is itching to move forward, to show our strengths, and to support the Battalion's mission.

Very Sincerely,  
Captain Joseph Flynn



## Engineer Company

We have joined Combat Logistics Battalion - 5 for our upcoming deployment and are now named Engineer Company.

We have been training hard for the past two months to ensure that we are all prepared for our future missions. Last month, at the Battalion Field Exercise (FEX), your Marines conducted a multitude of training to include Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT), Counter Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED), first aid, motorized operations, and entry control point operations. In addition, the Engineer Platoon (combat engineers) built a South West Asia (SWA) hut that was used to shelter Marines receiving cultural awareness classes.



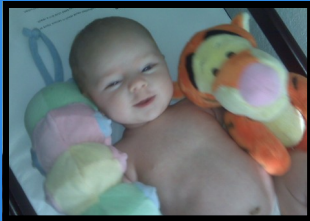
Following the FEX, we began preparing for Enhanced Mojave Viper (EMV) at 29 Palms. We organized a Combat Logistics Patrol (CLP) and have participated in all of the mounted operations events. Both platoons have participated in grenade ranges, machine gun ranges and live fire/maneuver ranges. Engineer Platoon enjoyed having the opportunity to blow things up at the demolition range. The culminating event involved the entire Company moving to two Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) and completing a variety of construction projects to improve the FOBs. The Marines have been motivated in the training and your support to them shows through on a daily basis. This training is not all encompassing

## Capt. Dan Francis

of what we will be doing in country, but is greatly helping us mold the mind frame and confidence we will need to be successful. We have also been learning about the newly revamped Family Readiness program that will allow greater communication of important information and updates to the friends and family members of our Marines while on deployment. Your involvement in your Marine's life greatly affects how we can accomplish the mission. We look forward to working hand-in-hand with all of you so that we can reflect the pride that you have in your Marine.

Semper Fi,  
Captain Dan Francis

# CLB-5 Babies



Autumn Marie Culley

Sgt Myrick and Germaine Reyes, welcomed twins, **Manai and Mana** on Nov. 22, 2009

Cpl Jennifer and Matthew Culley welcomed **Autumn Marie** on Nov. 25, 2009

Ssgt George and Samantha Vega welcomed **Christian John** on Dec. 23, 2009

GySgt Michael and Adriana Jimenez welcomed **Alessandra Isabelle** on Dec. 20, 2009.

Cpl Lucky and Leanne WhitemanLaForge welcomed **Triston Dane** on Jan. 6, 2010.

Ssgt Mauricio and Brandie Grande welcomed **Nathyn Alanzo** on Jan. 16, 2010

Sgt. Donnie and Sara Baker welcomed **Kevin Patrick** on Jan. 22, 2010

Lcpl Kenneth and Heather Bone welcomed **Landen Noel** on Jan. 27, 2010.

Cpl James and Kasey Naylor welcomed **Allie Rene** on Jan. 30, 2010.



Christian John Vega

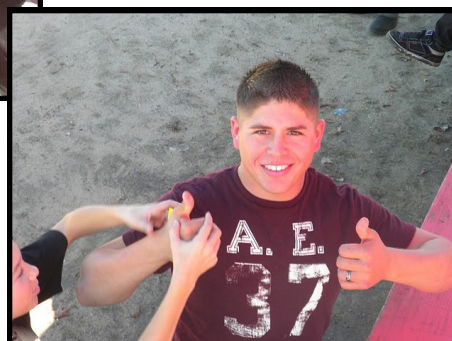
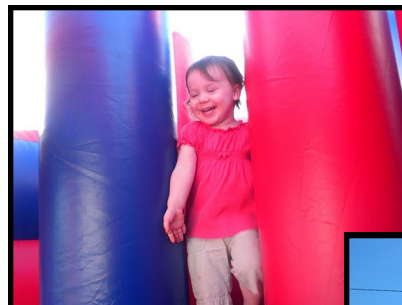


Triston Dane LaForge and Dad, Cpl Lucky WhitemanLaForge

## Holiday Family Day—fun and festive

If you were anywhere near Lake O'Neill on Friday, December 18 then you heard the laughter and smelled the grill cooking!

CLB-5 Marines and families were out in full force visiting with Santa, winning prizes and enjoying the day.





## CLB-5 Retires one of the best: 1st Sgt Stone



1st Sgt Thomas Stone stood before a battalion formation for the final time on Monday, January 4, 2010.

He received a Meritorious Service Medal, a career shadowbox and the traditional flag representing his nearly 24 years as a proud United States Marine. Addressing the battalion, he described his Marine Corps career as a “long road and a fun ride.” He thanked the Marines present as well as those he has served with over the years for their guidance and friendship.

After the formation, a “school circle” from the Motor Transport Company formed and presented him with the framed company gui-

don. He told the Marines that his transition counselor referred to retiring Marines as thoroughbreds.”

He said that this is an accurate description of Marines since he “ran circles” around the other candidates on the Florida State Trooper fitness test.

His words and leadership example will live on in the Marines of CLB-5 and we wish him *fair winds and following seas* in his new life in Florida.



## Inside EMV: the FRO goes to the Field

Twenty years had passed since I have driven through the front gate of the Marine Corps Base 29 Palms but strangely, I still knew my way around—boy, not much changes in the desert!

I drove past the Exchange area (still about the most popular spot), saw the monstrous machines from 1st Tank Battalion, past the bomb bunkers and then finally into the wide open desert. I drove up a hill and the Quonset huts and tent city of Camp Wilson appeared hunkered down in the sand. Although remote, I could not help but appreciate the beauty of the bright blue sky and distant snow-capped mountains.

The CLB-5 Marines were busy driving vehicles and running to and from train-

ing sessions. The Command Post was surrounded by barbed wire and I was greeted by stern guards at the entrance.

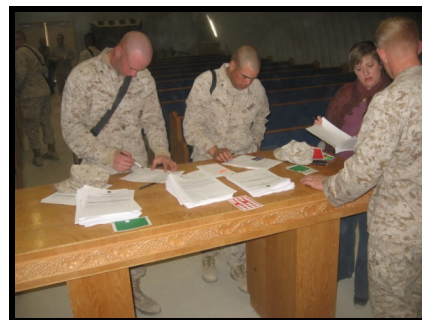
Over the next two days, I was able to meet with the Battalion SNCOs and then with smaller groups of our Marines in the Chapel and the Dining Hall. We talked about the Family Readiness Program and the importance of the Mass Communication Tool and Family Care Plans.

The Marines were able to eat hot breakfast and dinner—MREs were lunch. They also visited the Warrior Club, a small gathering spot in the Camp serving quick food and providing entertainment like pool tables and board games. Movies and football

games were offered in the Chapel in between extremely busy training schedules.

As a Marine spouse for the last two decades, it was fantastic to go to the field and begin learning about the Marines whom I look forward to serving as YOUR Family Readiness Officer.

Take care,  
Christine Winicki



Mojave Viper  
CLB-5 Marines



## Chaplain's Corner

## Chaplain Salimaleato Fuimano

*"Have I not commanded you? I will be strong and of good courage; I will not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord my God is with me wherever I go."*

Joshua 1:9

As CLB-5 Chaplain and my assistant RP2, prepare to go forward on deployment, the Religious Ministry Team (RMT) is faithfully praying for Marine families and friends who remain behind. It will certainly not be an easy time by any means. Routines will change and lifestyles will go through major adjustments on both ends of a relationship. It is very important to be understanding and very supportive during the separation of deployments. The RMT encourages

our Marines and Sailors to prepare themselves mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially. Moreover, prepare their families by giving them knowledge of all the resources and information available to them while they are away. It can be very frightening not knowing what to do in any situation and that can cause a lot of stress and discomfort in a relationship. The RMT will do everything in our power through faith in Almighty God to support and take care of your Marines and Sailors. During those lonely times of deployment, it is critical we help each other through spiritual intervention, prayer, accountability, and encouragement. God not

only wants to encourage us, He wants us to encourage others through sharing our experiences of His provisions of grace and ministry in our own lives. May the love of Almighty Lord be and abide with CLB-5 Marines, Sailors and their families forever.

God Bless,

Chaplain Saumaleato Fuimaono and  
RP2 Paul Drachenberg

## Family Readiness Information

I am your new Family Readiness Officer, and am so excited to meet my new CLB-5 "family" and get to know each of you—husbands, wives, children and family members.

We are working hard to get ready for the upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

We need to communicate. Please provide **accurate email information** to ensure that each weekly update and monthly newsletter arrives safely in everyone's inbox. Please contact me to make sure that I have correct email address and phone numbers.

**VOLUNTEER Opportunities:**

Here are the projects that

need helpers to support our Marines and Families:

- **Baby Basket Brigade:** we have a wonderful donor making each new baby a basket of newborn goodies we also need families willing to take meals.
- **Care Package Corps:** we are looking for spouses or parents to coordinate the sponsors "adopting" CLB-5 Marines with Care Packages during the deployment.
- **Admin Help:** paperwork and Excel spreadsheet input are a constant part of keeping in touch with families. If you can spare

some time to help I would love to have you!



- **Event Coordinators:** we will be planning fun events for the deployment and need folks who would like to help organize and execute the fun!

Please contact me for further information or just to touch base and talk! See you at the **Pre-Deployment Briefings on Feb. 17, 2010 at the South Mesa SNCO Club.**

Christine Winicki  
CLB-5 Family Readiness  
Officer  
760.763.6915 (ofc)  
760.468.8276 (cell)